



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

This series, with its admirable illustrations, are most useful adjuncts both for the beginner in zoölogy as well as the working embryologist.

— During the quarter ending September 1st, 13,796 persons have visited the museum of the Peabody Academy of Science, the largest number on any one day being 456 July 1st, the day Barnum's circus was in Salem. The most important accession to the museum has been a collection of lemur skins from Madagascar.

— C. H. Gilbert has been appointed Professor of Biology in the University of Cincinnati in the place of Professor W. G. Wetherby resigned. Joseph Swain takes the place of Professor Gilbert as assistant professor in the University of Indiana.

— George Bentham, the distinguished English botanist, died Sept. 10 at the age of 84. His Hand-book of the British Flora was widely used in Great Britain, while Hooker and Bentham's Genera Plantarum, finished a year ago, made his name familiar to botanists the world over. His work in systematic botany has extended over half a century, beginning in 1825.

—:o:—

## PROCEEDINGS OF SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES.

ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES PHILADELPHIA, March 27, 1884.—Professor Lewis reported the discovery of itacolumite at two localities in Pennsylvania, one in Lancaster county, the other near Spring Mills, on the Schuylkill. He believed the itacolumite to be identical with the Potsdam sandstone. Mr. Hotchkiss gave details respecting the coal mine at Pocahontas, where 114 miners were recently killed by an explosion, and suggested that the dry coal dust in the air of the mine, by mingling with the gases of the gradually rising galleries, may have been the cause of the catastrophe.

April 3.—Dr. Leidy called attention to the existence of a reef of *Serpula dianthus* at Barnegat bay. Mr. Ford reported the finding of several specimens of *Mellita testudinaria* on Anglesea beach, N. J.

April 10.—Dr. D. G. Brinton was inaugurated as professor of ethnology and archæology, and delivered a lecture on prehistoric man in America. After giving due weight to all objections, the lecturer argued that there was evidence in favor of the presence of man upon this continent long anterior to any historic date of the old world. The origin, development and history of the native American race must, therefore, be studied separately, without any attempt to identify it with any race of the eastern hemisphere. The common origin must be placed very far back.

April 17.—Dr. C. Dolley suggested with regard to the so-called parenchymatous digestion of *Salpa* and *Auchenia*, an interpretation totally different from the one usually received. The

endostyle of the branchial sac, in *Salpa*, throws out a supply of mucus which covers the surface, and in which nutritive particles, finding their way into the animal, are imbedded. The food is carried back by cilia, and the mucous sheet is wound up into a thread which can be traced into the œsophagus, and thence into the stomach. This mucous exudation Dr. Dolley believes to be identical with the amœboid cell which has been described as taking up the nutritive particles and passing them on to the tissues. Dr. N. A. Randolph described a test for the detection of small quantities of peptones in solution.

April 24.—Dr. Leidy called attention to a discovery of fossil remains of mammals in Florida, indicating the existence of a formation of later Miocene or Pliocene age differing from those before known. Though mostly in fragments, the fossils exhibit no appearance of being water worn or abraded by friction. Among the remains were those of a mastodon, also of a rhinoceros rather shorter than the existing species, bones of a llama, a tapir and of a large ruminating animal exceeding in bulk the Irish elk. Professor Heilprin stated that rock fragments received from Mr. Willcox contained six or seven genera, and specimens of microscopic *Paludina* were associated with them. These might indicate the presence of fresh-water swamps in ancient Florida, or the emptying of a river into the sea.

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES, Newport, R. I., Oct. 14, 15, and 16, 1884.—The following papers were read:

- On the columella auris of the Pelycosauria. By E. D. Cope.
- The brain of *Asellus* and the eyeless form of *Cecidotea*. By A. S. Packard.
- On the theory of atomic volumes. By Wolcott Gibbs.
- On the complex inorganic acids. By Wolcott Gibbs.
- Notice of Muybridge's Experiments on the motions of animals by instantaneous photography. By Fairman Rogers.
- Notice of Grant's difference engine. By Fairman Rogers.
- On the Thimolite of Lake Lahontan. By E. S. Dana.
- On the Mesozoic coals of the Northwest. By R. Pumpelly.
- On the work of the northern transcontinental survey. By R. Pumpelly.
- The grasses mechanically injurious to live stock. By Wm. H. Brewer.
- On gravitation survey. By C. S. Peirce.
- On minimum differences of sensibility. By C. S. Peirce and J. Jastrow.
- Researches on Ptolemy's Star-Catalogue. By C. H. F. Peters.
- On the operations of the United States geological survey. By J. W. Powell.
- The motion of Hyperion. By Asaph Hall.
- Remarks on the civilization of the native peoples of America (by request). By E. B. Tylor.
- Some results of the exploration of the deep sea beneath the Gulf Stream, by the U. S. Fish Commission steamer *Albatross* during the past summer. By A. E. Verrill.
- Recent progress in explosives. By H. L. Abbot.
- On an experimental composite photograph of the Members of the Academy. By R. Pumpelly.
- Report on meridian work at Karlsruhe. By W. Valentiner.
- On the algebra of logic. By C. S. Peirce.
- On the temperature of the lunar surface. By Samuel P. Langley.
- On methods of eastern archery. By Edward S. Morse.

APPALACHIAN MOUNTAIN CLUB.—Oct. 8, 1884.—A paper by Professor George Davidson entitled "Account of the Volcano

Makushin, on the Island of Unalaska, in the Aleutian Chain," was presented by Professor E. C. Pickering. Dr. J. F. Frisbie read a paper entitled "A tramp over Ossipee mountain."

Professor Samuel H. Scudder presented a communication on "The movement of Hôtel des Neuchatelois on the Glacier of the Aar."

NEWTON NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.—At the annual meeting in October the following officers were elected: president, Dr. J. F. Frisbie; vice-president, George L. Chandler; treasurer, S. E. Warren; secretary, A. C. Brackett; curator and custodian, Jesse Fewkes. A resolution was passed in commemoration of the late John L. Ordway, who was an active member of the society. The annual address was delivered by the president, J. F. Frisbie, his subject being "A tramp through Tuckerman ravine up to the summit of Mt. Washington."

NEW YORK ACADEMY OF SCIENCES.—Oct. 13th.—The following paper was read: Notes on a recent visit to Northern Montana, —its scenery, resources, and geological structure (with lantern illustrations), by Dr. John S. Newberry.

Oct. 20.—The following papers were read: Notes on the constitution of oceanic, river, and desert sands, by Dr. A. A. Julien; On certain peculiarities of the mussel (*Mytilus*), by Mr. B. B. Chamberlin.

Oct. 27.—Notes upon the recently-discovered columnar trap exposures on the east face of Orange mountain, N. J., were presented by Professor D. S. Martin, Professor H. L. Fairchild, and Dr. N. L. Britton, with photographs and sketches taken by Professor Fairchild and Mr. B. B. Chamberlin.

BOSTON SOCIETY OF NATURAL HISTORY.—Oct. 1, 1884.—Mr. S. Garman spoke on sharks and their classification.

Oct. 15.—Professor Hyatt spoke of the discovery of supposed winter buds in a marine sponge.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY.—April 18.—Extracts from a report on the Ham's Fork coals of Wyoming Territory, by P. W. Sheaffer, were read; Mr. Lesley exhibited models of the Nittany valley and Bald Eagle mountain, and of the Jones mine, made by Mr. E. B. Harden. Dr. Hunt stated that the iron ore of the Jones and other mines with analogous ores were referable to the horizon of H. D. Rogers' primal slates, though they lie in immediate contact with the Trias. Dr. Frazer said that some of the mines (as at Dillsburg, York Co.) penetrate the Trias, yet the Triassic iron ore deposits may be but the redeposited detritus of more extensive primal slate ores.

May 2.—Mr. Phillips made a communication on a supposed Runic inscription, found upon a rock weighing about 400 pounds, on an island at the mouth of the Tasset river, on the shore of the Bay of Fundy.

May 16.—Prof. Cope described the rich collections of vertebrate fossils in the museums of the City of Mexico. Some species are yet undescribed.

June 20.—Professor Cope read a paper upon the extinct Mammalia of the Valley of Mexico.

July 18.—Dr. Gill's notes on the Stromateidæ were presented for publication, and Professor Cope presented a paper by W. G. Stevenson on a man-eating shark caught off Nantucket.

August 15.—Professor Cope presented a paper upon "The structure of the feet in the extinct Artiodactyla of North America," also a "Fifth contribution to the knowledge of the fauna of the Permian formation of Texas."

ILLINOIS STATE NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.—The field and annual meeting was held at Peoria, July 7th. It was intended to combine for this occasion the features of the field and annual meetings, heretofore held separately, the programme of papers and discussions being varied with short excursions for collection and field observation in the vicinity.

The following papers were read: Illinois forests and forestry, by T. J. Burrill; New developments in the Streater coal field, by Edwin Evans; Mastodon and other remains of the loess and drift clays, and their relation to the climatology and geology of the deposits, by William McAdams; Explorations of Indian mounds in Dakota, by William McAdams; Ancient pictographic records on the rocks in the vicinity of the Missouri river, by William McAdams; Experiments with a living copper-head serpent, by William McAdams; Notes on marine algæ, by A. B. Seymour; Recent investigations in relation to the rise of sap in trees, with experiment, by A. B. Seymour; Some corn fungi, by A. B. Seymour; Notes and observations on silk culture, by J. E. Armstrong; On two forms of phytoptus galls on the leaves of *Nyssa multiflora*, by H. Garman; On the artificial production and propagation of insect diseases, by S. A. Forbes; On the fishes of Illinois, by S. A. Forbes. An election of officers was held at which the Hon. William McAdams, of Alton, was made president for the ensuing year, and S. A. Fowler, secretary; Professor Burrill and Mr. J. E. Armstrong were made vice-presidents; Tyler McWhorter was elected treasurer and Dr. Edwin Evans and Mr. A. H. Munell were chosen as additional members of the Executive Committee.

At an evening session a finely illustrated description of the development of the teeth in man and other vertebrates was given by Dr. Will X. Suddath, of Bloomington, highly interesting to those present, and the president-elect of the society, Mr. McAdams, gave an address on the fossil remains of the bluff clays of the Mississippi river, passing around numerous fossil specimens of the teeth and bones of land animals lately found by him imbedded in nodules in this formation.—S. A. Forbes, Secretary.